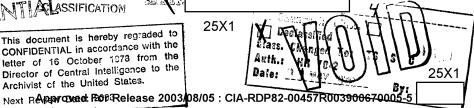
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COUNTRY.		Bulgaria REPORT NO. 25X1										
TOPIC	-	Development and Organization of the Bulgarian Air Force										
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		The Bulgarian Air Force as an independent branch of service was directly assigned to the Ministry of National Defense. The Operations Department (Operational), the CI Department (Ratsusnavatelno otdelenie), and the Training Department (Uchevno otdelenie) of the High Command of the Air Forces were located in the premises of the Ministry of National Defense in SCFIA. The other departments were in the barracks of the former 6th Inf Regt on ul. Yeftimi.										
	2.	Toward the end of the war, the component units of an air division had the following authorized strength:										
		l krilo - 4 aircraft - platoon (Svod) l yato - 3 krilos - 12 aircraft - company (rota) l orlayk - 3 yatos - 36 aircraft l regiment (polk) - 3 orlyaks - 108 aircraft l division - 3 regiments										
		Two regiments were called a brigade. A headquarters flight (chetvorka) of four planes was assigned to each fighter orlyak.										
:	3.	After conclusion of the peace treaty a reorganization became necessary including the dissolution of the third air regiments of the air divisions. The divisions then had the following organizations										
	•	l yato - 7 aircraft l regiment (polk) - 2 yatos - 14 aircraft l division - 2 regiments - 28 aircraft.										
	bo bo	An organization strictly along Soviet lines was planned, but in May 1948 had not been put into practice. The Soviet organization is as follows:										
		l brilo - 3 aircraft l yato - 4 krilos - 12 aircraft l regiment (polk) - 4 yatos - 48 aircraft.										

The limitation of aircraft to 70, leid down in the peace treaty, and the shortage of trained personnel have so far prevented a clear organization. The continual reorganizations are probably precautionary measures taken in vicu of the possibility of inspections by the Allied Control Commission.

CONFIDENTIALASSIFICATION

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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In cooperation between Soviet instructors and Bulgarian officers who had one to Bulgaria from the Soviet Union after the war, the Bulgar an hir Force was reorganized on Soviet pattern. The existing air regiments were redesignated air divisions. The reconna same regiment was dissolved since aircraft were no longer available. The new divisions were subdivided into three regiments each, the third regiments remaining coder units. In spite of these organizational changes the number of aircraft assigned to the individual units was diminished in accordance with the stipulations of the peace treaty.

7. The virius tactical symbols with which the planes were surled were removed after the reorganization and Soviet training methods and regulations were introduced. Due to a lack of aircraft and a strict rationing of eviation fuel, the pilots were essentially trained on the ground

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